



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of:

OHMI, Tadahiko et al.

Serial No.: 09/023,416

Filed: February 13, 1998

For: FLUID CONTROL APPARATUS

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JUN - 3 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Group Art Unit: 3753

Examiner: FOX, John C.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: May 28, 2002

Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned RCE application, concurrently filed herewith. Please amend the above-captioned RCE application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1-6, as follows:

1. (Amended) A fluid control apparatus comprising a plurality of lines, each line having a fluid controller, an inlet on-off device and an outlet on-off device arranged respectively at an inlet side and an outlet side of each of the fluid controllers, each of the on-off devices comprising one valve or a plurality of valves, with the adjacent valves interconnecting each other without using tubing,